

WINMARLEIGH C.E. SCHOOL



# Collective Worship Policy

Jesus said 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.'

Matthew 22:37-39

**September 2024**

## **Our Collective Worship**

At Winmarleigh Church of England Primary School, we believe that collective worship is at the heart of our school life and an expression of our distinctive Christian vision. The Governors see it as an essential part of the development and education of all of our pupils. In this Church of England school, our collective worship is in conformity with the rites, practices and doctrines of the Church of England.

As a school, we aim to serve our community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. We encourage an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith, and promote Christian values through the experience we offer to all our pupils. The worship and prayer life of our school is not limited to the legally required daily acts of worship. Opportunities will be taken to use prayer and encourage reflection in the curriculum generally and at the end of each afternoon session as well as saying grace before lunch.

## **Key Beliefs**

Forms of worship within our denomination differ and these differences enable us to provide a varied range of approaches to our worship. As well as drawing on our denominational heritage, we also occasionally expect to draw on the rich tapestry of practice in the world-wide Christian church. Whatever the approaches used, we expect that our pupils will be introduced to, and encouraged to explore, the following key beliefs and aspects of the Christian faith:

- The nature of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- The nature of human beings as children of God, part of his creation and though sinful, destined for eternal life
- Jesus as the Son of God who, through his life, death and resurrection, broke the power of evil and restored humanity's relationship with God
- The central place of the Bible as a source of knowledge about God and Jesus and as a source of inspiration and guidance
- The importance of prayer
- The central symbols of Christianity
- The cycle of the Church year

## **Our Aims**

The aims of Collective Worship in our school have been created using the 3 E's (as outlined in the Guidelines for Collective Worship by Blackburn Diocese).

1. **EXPLORE** - We encourage our children and our staff to explore:

- a personal relationship with God.
- the teachings, stories and fundamental beliefs of the Bible.
- personal and corporate prayer.
- the value of truth, love, goodness and respect and empathy for others regardless of gender, social, racial or cultural differences.
- what worship means to them and to others.
- what it means to put God at the heart of our school and our lives.

2. **ENCOUNTER** - We trust that our children and our staff will encounter:

- the beauty, awe and wonder of our God and his creation.
- the nature of God as revealed in Jesus – through love, tolerance, forgiveness, honesty and respect.
- faith and peace through silence and reflection.
- a meaningful relationship with God.
- a faith which is alive in our world today.

3. **EXPERIENCE** - It is our aim that our children and staff experience:

- acts of worship that are enjoyable and that involve everyone, regardless of age, ability or personal level of faith.
- the feeling of belonging – to families, our school, our church the wider Christian community
- the enjoyment of participating in and leading worship
- church life and Christian practice, both locally and globally
- a sense of pride in our achievements and the joy of sharing with and in the successes of others.
- a sense of shared sadness and loss and the support and care that God offers us and that we can offer to each other.
- a sense of smallness in the face of the greatest of things.
- a sense of grandness in the face of the smallest of things.

## **Organisation and Delivery**

Our Christian value changes each half-term on a two year rolling programme. Worship is based on this Christian value through bible stories, the teachings of Jesus, scripture and children's own experiences.

We hold whole school worship daily:

Monday - Reverend Gary links our current value within a Christian context linking to the church calendar where possible.

Tuesday & Thursday - Mrs Shaw or Mrs Darling linking to our half term value.

Wednesday - Mrs Campbell leads the weekly celebration worship

Friday - Child led through the Worship Team - this is based on Picture news, a current news story dealt with in a sympathetic, Christian manner.

Agreed By Governors: \_\_\_\_\_

To be reviewed: \_\_\_\_\_